

16 KAR 9:080. University-based alternative certification program.

RELATES TO: KRS 156.111, 160.345(2)(h), 160.380(5)(c), 161.027, 161.028(1)(k), (s), (t), 161.030(10), 161.048

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 161.027(1), 161.048(1)(d), (7)

NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 161.048(1)(d) and (7) require the Education Professional Standards Board to promulgate administrative regulations establishing the standards and procedures for a university alternative certification option for teacher and administrator certification. This administrative regulation establishes the requirements for entry and completion of the teacher and administrator university-based alternative certification options, the responsibilities of the employing school or school district, and the responsibilities of the approved college or university alternative program.

Section 1. Definitions. (1) "Alternative certification administrator program" means a college or university post baccalaureate or post masters administrator preparation program for an individual enrolled concurrently with employment in a local school district as an assistant principal, principal, assistant superintendent, guidance counselor, director of special education, director of pupil personnel, supervisor of instruction, or superintendent.

(2) "Alternative certification teacher program" means a college or university post baccalaureate teacher preparation program for an individual enrolled concurrently with employment as a teacher.

Section 2. Admission Requirements. (1) An applicant for an alternative certification teacher program shall meet the admission standards for an initial certification program established in 16 KAR 5:020.

(2) An applicant for an alternative certification administrator program shall meet the admission standards for the corresponding administrator certification program established in 16 KAR Chapter 3.

(3) An applicant for any alternative certification teacher or administrator program shall meet all certification requirements for the corresponding certificate established in 16 KAR Chapter 2 or 3 except completion of the corresponding educator preparation program and the required assessments.

Section 3. University Requirements for Alternative Certification Teacher Program. (1) An accredited college or university seeking to offer an alternative certification teacher program shall apply to the Education Professional Standards Board for program approval in accordance with 16 KAR 5:010.

(2) In addition to the standards for program approval established in 16 KAR 5:010, the educator preparation institution seeking alternative certification teacher program approval shall design the alternative certification teacher program to provide a candidate with the coursework and mentoring necessary to permit a candidate to maintain employment in an eligible position and to successfully complete any applicable assessments, including internship programs, within a period of three (3) years for those enrolled in an alternative certification teacher program.

(3) Upon approval, the alternative certification teacher program unit shall:

(a) Assess a candidate's educational background and develop a plan of coursework that shall adequately prepare the candidate for successful completion of the requirements for program completion and certification for the areas and grade ranges that correspond with the candidate's school placement;

(b) Provide a candidate written and dated documentation of eligibility for the university alter-

native certification teacher program so that the candidate may be considered for employment pursuant to KRS 160.345(2)(h);

(c) Ensure that a candidate begins coursework no later than ninety (90) days from the date the eligibility notice is issued;

(d) Develop a written agreement to provide, in collaboration with the administration of the candidate's employing school, mentoring to the candidate in the employment setting which shall include:

1. Prior to the candidate's enrollment in the Kentucky Teacher Internship Program pursuant to KRS 161.030 and 16 KAR 7:010, a minimum of fifteen (15) hours of annual observation utilizing university faculty and a district-based mentor of the candidate practicing instruction in the classroom, as follows:

a. A minimum of five (5) hours of observation by university faculty;

b. A minimum of five (5) hours of observation by a district-based mentor; and

c. A minimum of five (5) hours of observation by either the university faculty or the district-based mentor;

2. A description of how support shall be offered to the candidate during in-class and out-of-class time to assist the candidate in meeting the teacher's instructional responsibilities;

3. The name, contact person, and role for the collaborating educator preparation institution mentor; and

4. The name and role of all school district mentor teachers;

(e) Establish a process to maintain regular communication with the employing school so that the institution and employing school may assist the candidate as needed and address identified areas of improvement; and

(f) Notify the Education Professional Standards Board in writing if a candidate's employment in a covered position or enrollment in the alternative certification teacher program permanently ceases.

(4) Student teaching shall not be required for program completion.

Section 4. Temporary Provisional Certificate for Teaching. (1) The temporary provisional certificate for teaching shall be issued and renewed in accordance with KRS 161.048(7).

(2) The temporary provisional certificate for teaching shall be:

(a)1. Until December 31, 2014, issued in accordance with a grade level and specialization as recommended by the educator preparation institution on Form TC-TP; or

2. Beginning January 1, 2015, issued in accordance with a grade level and specialization as recommended by the educator preparation institution on Form CA-TP; and

(b) Valid for employment consistent with the area of certification being sought through the preparation program.

(3) The temporary provisional certificate for teaching shall be issued at the rank corresponding to the degree held by the teacher applicant in accordance with the requirements established in 16 KAR 8:020.

Section 5. Issuance of a Temporary Provisional Certificate for Teaching. (1) Prior to seeking employment in a Kentucky public school, a candidate shall request from the institution written and dated documentation of eligibility for the alternative certification teacher program to provide to school districts pursuant to KRS 160.345(2)(h).

(2) Prior to employment, a superintendent, on behalf of the employing local board of education, shall be responsible for requesting the temporary provisional certificate.

(3) The candidate shall submit to the Education Professional Standards Board an official college transcript from each college or university attended.

(4) The employing school district shall submit with Form TC-TP or Form CA-TP a completed and signed copy of the mentoring collaboration agreement with the alternative certification teacher program as required by Section 3(3)(d) of this administrative regulation.

(5) Beginning January 1, 2015, a candidate who is not currently certified as an educator in Kentucky shall submit a national and state criminal background check performed in accordance with KRS 160.380(5)(c) within twelve (12) months prior to the date of application.

Section 6. Requirements for Renewal of the Temporary Provisional Certificate for Teaching.

(1) A candidate shall be eligible for the first renewal of the temporary provisional certificate upon successful completion of the following requirements:

(a) Evidence of employment in a Kentucky school district or nonpublic school in the content area or areas indicated on the initial provisional certificate;

(b) A minimum of six (6) semester hours or its equivalent from the approved preparation program; and

(c)1. Until December 31, 2014, completion of Form TC-TP; or

2. Beginning January 1, 2015, completion of Form CA-TP.

(2) A candidate shall be eligible for the final renewal of the temporary provisional certificate upon successful completion of the following requirements:

(a) Evidence of employment in a Kentucky school district or nonpublic school in the content area or areas indicated on the initial provisional certificate;

(b) A minimum of six (6) new semester hours or its equivalent from the approved preparation program;

(c) The required assessments as established in 16 KAR 6:010; and

(d)1. Until December 31, 2014, completion of Form TC-TP; or

2. Beginning January 1, 2015, completion of Form CA-TP.

Section 7. Alternative Certification Teacher Program Completion Requirements. (1) If the candidate has successfully passed the required assessments as outlined in 16 KAR 6:010, and completed the required coursework, the institution shall provide written notice to the employing school district that a candidate is eligible to participate in the Kentucky Teacher Internship Program in each subject area covered by the temporary provisional certificate and in accordance with 16 KAR 7:010.

(2) When the candidate is prepared to enroll in the Kentucky Teacher Internship Program, the recommending institution shall complete and sign page five (5) of the TC-TP or page four (4) of the CA-TP form and deliver it to the employing school district for submission to the Education Professional Standards Board.

(3) Upon completion of all program requirements of the alternative certification teacher program, including successful completion of the Kentucky Teacher Internship Program established in KRS 161.030 and 16 KAR 7:010, the candidate may make application to the Education Professional Standards Board for the professional certificate on the form TC-1 or CA-1, which are incorporated by reference in 16 KAR 2:010.

(4) Upon verification that a candidate has met all eligibility requirements for certificate issuance, the Education Professional Standards Board shall issue a professional certificate.

(5) A candidate who failed to successfully complete the assessments, the internship, or the required coursework during the initial issuance and two (2) renewals of the temporary certificate, in accordance with KRS 161.048(7), and who has been transitioned into an institution's traditional educator preparation program, shall be eligible for a Teacher Internship Statement of Eligibility-Confirmation of Employment as a Teacher upon recommendation of the institution after the candidate's completion of the preparation program and the required assessments.

(6) If a candidate fails to complete all alternative certification program requirements during the initial issuance and two (2) renewals of the temporary provisional certificate, in accordance with KRS 161.048(7), the employing school district may, pursuant to 16 KAR 2:010, 2:120, and 2:180, submit an application for emergency or conditional certification on behalf of the former employee to allow the individual to continue employment.

Section 8. University Requirements for an Alternative Certification Administrator Program.

(1) An accredited college or university seeking to offer an alternative certification administrator program shall apply to the Education Professional Standards Board for program approval in accordance with 16 KAR 5:010.

(2) In addition to the standards for program approval established in 16 KAR 5:010, the educator preparation institution seeking alternative certification administrator program approval shall design the alternative certification administrator program to provide a candidate with the coursework and mentoring appropriate to permit a candidate to maintain employment in an eligible position and successfully complete any applicable assessments, including any internship or training programs, within a period of two (2) years for those enrolled in an alternative certification administrator program.

(3) Upon approval, the alternative certification administrator program unit shall:

(a) Assess a candidate's educational background and develop a plan of coursework that shall adequately prepare the candidate for successful completion of the requirements for program completion and certification for the areas and grade ranges that correspond with the candidate's school placement;

(b) Provide a candidate written and dated documentation of eligibility for the university alternative certification administrator program so that the candidate may be considered for employment pursuant to KRS 160.345(2)(h);

(c) Ensure that a candidate begins coursework no later than ninety (90) days from the date the eligibility notice is issued;

(d) Develop a written agreement to provide, in collaboration with the administration of the candidate's employing school, mentoring to the candidate in the employment setting which shall include:

1. A minimum of fifteen (15) hours of annual observation utilizing university faculty and a district-based mentor of the candidate practicing in the appropriate administrative role, as follows:

a. A minimum of five (5) hours of observation by university faculty;

b. A minimum of five (5) hours of observation by a district-based mentor; and

c. Five (5) hours of observation by either the university faculty or the district-based mentor;

2. A description of how support shall be offered to the candidate to assist the candidate in meeting the candidate's administrative responsibilities;

3. The name, contact person, and role for the collaborating educator preparation institution mentor; and

4. The name and role of all school district mentors;

(e) Establish a process to maintain regular communication with the employing school so that the institution and employing school may assist the candidate as needed and address identified areas of improvement; and

(f) Notify the Education Professional Standards Board in writing if a candidate's employment in a covered position or enrollment in the alternative certification administrator program permanently ceases.

Section 9. Temporary Provisional Administrative Certificate. (1) The temporary provisional

administrative certificate shall be issued for a validity period not to exceed one (1) year.

(2) The temporary provisional administrative certificate may be renewed a maximum of one (1) time.

(3) The temporary provisional administrative certificate shall be valid for employment in a position consistent with the area of certification being sought through the preparation program.

Section 10. Issuance of a Temporary Provisional Administrative Certificate. (1) Prior to seeking employment in a Kentucky public school, a candidate shall request from the institution written and dated documentation of eligibility for the university based alternative certification administrator program to provide to school districts pursuant to KRS 160.345(2)(h).

(2) Prior to employment, a superintendent, on behalf of the employing local board of education, shall be responsible for requesting the temporary provisional certificate.

(3) The candidate shall submit to the Education Professional Standards Board an official college transcript from each college or university attended.

(4) The employing school district shall submit with Form TC-TP or Form CA-TP a completed and signed copy of the mentoring collaboration agreement with the university based alternative certification program as required by Section 8(3)(d) of this administrative regulation.

(5) Beginning January 1, 2015, a candidate who is not currently certified as an educator in Kentucky shall submit a national and state criminal background check performed in accordance with KRS 160.380(5)(c) within twelve (12) months prior to the date of application.

Section 11. Requirements for renewal of the temporary provisional certificate for an administrator. (1) A candidate shall be eligible for no more than one (1) renewal of the temporary provisional certificate.

(2) A candidate shall be eligible for renewal of the temporary provisional certificate upon successful completion of the following requirements:

(a) Evidence of employment in a Kentucky school district or nonpublic school in the position indicated on the temporary provisional certificate;

(b) A minimum of six (6) semester hours or its equivalent from the approved preparation program; and

(c)1. Until December 31, 2014, completion of Form TC-TP; or

2. Beginning January 1, 2015, completion of Form CA-TP.

Section 12. Alternative Certification Administrator Program Completion Requirements. (1)(a) If the alternative certification administrator candidate for principal certification has successfully passed the required assessments, as outlined in 16 KAR 6:030, and completed the required coursework, the institution shall provide written notice to the district that the candidate is eligible to participate in the Kentucky Principal Internship Program in accordance with 16 KAR 7:020.

(b) When a principal candidate is ready to enroll in the Kentucky Principal Internship Program, the recommending institution shall complete page five (5) of the TC-TP form or Form CA-TP and deliver the form to the employing school district for submission to the Education Professional Standards Board.

(2)(a) An alternative certification administrator candidate who failed to complete the assessments, the internship, or the required coursework during the initial issuance and one (1) renewal of the temporary provisional certificate and who has been transitioned into an institution's traditional preparation program, shall be eligible for an administrative certificate in the area of study upon recommendation of the institution after the candidate's completion of the preparation program and the required assessments.

(b) If the candidate was initially enrolled in the alternative certification program for principal, the candidate shall be eligible for a Principal Internship Statement of Eligibility-Confirmation of Employment as a Principal/Assistant Principal in an Accredited Kentucky School upon recommendation of the institution after the candidate's completion of the preparation program and the required assessments.

(3)(a) During the period of enrollment in the alternative certification administrator program, a candidate seeking superintendent certification and serving in a local school district as a superintendent or assistant superintendent shall successfully complete both the coursework in the institution's alternative certification administrator program as well as the Superintendents Training Program and assessments required in KRS 156.111.

(b) The college or university faculty shall maintain contact with the employing school district and the Kentucky Department of Education regarding the completion of coursework to ensure that a superintendent candidate has completed the required coursework to prepare for the assessments and participation in the Superintendents Training Program.

(4) Upon completion of the alternative certification administrator program, the assessments, and the internship or Superintendents Training Program as applicable, the university shall provide a recommendation for the professional certificate on the candidate's TC-1 or CA-1 form, which are incorporated by reference in 16 KAR 2:010.

(5) Upon verification that a candidate has met all eligibility requirements for certificate issuance, the Education Professional Standards Board shall issue a professional certificate.

Section 13. Incorporation by Reference. (1) The following material is incorporated by reference:

(a) "Application for Temporary Provisional Certification", Form TC-TP, May 2007;

(b) "Application for Temporary Provisional Certification", Form CA-TP, June 2014;

(c) "Teacher Internship Statement of Eligibility-Confirmation of Employment as a Teacher", November 2004; and

(d) "Principal Internship Statement of Eligibility-Confirmation of Employment as a Principal/Assistant Principal in an Accredited Kentucky School", May 2005.

(2) This material may be inspected, copied, or obtained, subject to applicable copyright law, at the Education Professional Standards Board, 100 Airport Road, Third Floor, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (33 Ky.R. 3567; 34 Ky.R. 10; eff. 7-19-2007; 40 Ky.R. 623; 1012; eff. 12-6-2013; 41 Ky.R. 295; 736; eff. 10-31-2014.)